

C2 25:112-123 (1998) the entirety of which is herein incorporated by reference), for example can be used to identify potential PCR primers.

**In the claims:**

Please cancel claim 2.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

C3 1. (Twice Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule that encodes a maize enzyme or fragment of said maize enzyme, wherein said maize enzyme is Methionine Adenosyltransferase and wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.